The Synthesis of Highly Substituted Isoxazoles by Electrophilic Cyclization. An Efficient Synthesis of Valdecoxib.

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General. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 300 and 75.5 MHz or 400 and 100 MHz respectively. Thin layer chromatography was performed using commercially prepared 60-mesh silica gel plates, and visualization was effected with short wavelength UV light (254 nm). All melting points are uncorrected. All reagents were used directly as obtained commercially unless otherwise noted. The following starting materials were made according to literature procedures: 1,3-diphenylprop-2-yn-1-one,¹ 1-phenyl-2-butyn-1-one,² 4,4-dimethyl-1-phenylpent-1-yn-3-one, *N*-methyl-3-indolecarboxaldehyde,³ 1-phenylnon-1-yn-3-one,⁴ 2,2,6,6-tetramethylhept-4-yn-3-one,⁵ 1-(furan-2-yl)-3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one⁶ and 1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one. Compounds **1-4**, **7**, **8**, **21**, **22**, **25-28**, **37** and **38** have been reported in our previous communication.⁷

General procedure for the preparation of alkynones from acyl chlorides. To a 25 mL flask were added CuI (0.05 mmol), PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.01 mmol) and triethylamine (5 mL). The flask was flushed with argon and the terminal acetylene (2.5 mmol) was added to the stirred suspension, followed by immediate dropwise addition of benzoyl chloride (3.25 mmol, 1.3 equiv). If the acid chloride is a solid, it was added as a THF solution. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature overnight, water (5 mL) was added, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layers were combined, dried and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was then purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired alkynone.

1-Phenylhept-2-yn-1-one. Purification by flash chromatography (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 381 mg (82%) of the product as a yellow oil with spectral properties identical to those previously reported.⁸

Ethyl 4-(3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-ynyl)benzoate. Purification by flash chromatography (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 570 mg (86%) of the product as a pale yellow solid: mp 54-56 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 1.42 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 4.39-4.44 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74-7.76 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.1 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 8.22-8.23 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 14.5,

61.7, 88.7, 91.5, 124.6, 128.9, 129.8 (2 carbons), 132.3, 133.0, 134.6, 136.8, 165.8, 177.9; HRMS Calcd for C₁₈H₁₄O₃: 278.0943. Found: 278.0947.

3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one. Purification by flash chromatography (10:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 470 mg (84%) of the product as a colorless solid: mp 121-122 °C (lit. 81-85 °C)⁹ with spectral properties identical to those previously reported.¹⁰

1-Phenyl-3-(thiophen-2-yl)prop-2-yn-1-one. Purification by flash chromatography (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 413 mg (78%) of the product as a yellow oil with spectral properties identical to those previously reported.¹¹

3-Phenyl-1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]prop-2-yn-1-one. Purification by flash chromatography (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 413 mg (79%) of the product as a colorless solid: mp 75-77 °C (lit. 70-72 °C) with spectral properties identical to those previously reported.¹²

3-Phenyl-1-*o***-tolylprop-2-yn-1-one.** Purification by flash chromatography (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 440 mg (80%) of the product as a pale yellow liquid with spectral properties identical to those previously reported.¹³

4,4-Dimethyl-1-phenyl-2-pentyn-1-one. Purification by flash chromatography (40:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 428 mg (92%) of the product as a pale yellow oil with spectral properties identical to those previously reported.¹⁴

1-(3,4,5-Trimethoxyphenyl)but-2-yn-1-one. A modified procedure was used. To a 25 mL flask were added CuI (0.05 mmol), $PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$ (0.01 mmol) and triethylamine (5 mL). The flask was flushed with argon and 3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoyl chloride (3.25 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added to the flask. The flask was flushed with propyne and a balloon of propyne gas was placed on the reaction flask. The resulting suspension was allowed to stir overnight. Purification by flash chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 550 mg (94%) of the product as a pale yellow solid: mp 99-100 $^{\circ}$ C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 2.17 (s, 3H), 3.94 (s, 9H), 7.41 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 4.6, 56.5, 61.2, 79.1, 92.4, 107.1, 132.2, 143.6, 153.2, 177.2; HRMS Calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₄: 234.0892. Found: 234.0895.

General procedure for the preparation of alkynones by the reaction of aldehydes with lithium acetylides, followed by oxidation with MnO₂. To a three-neck flask was added phenyl acetylene (11.2 mmol, 1.14 g) and anhydrous THF (7 mL). The stirred solution was cooled to 0 °C and flushed with argon. To the stirred solution, *n*-BuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 4.5 mL, 11.2 mmol) was added dropwise. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir for 30 min at 0 °C. The aldehyde (9.3 mmol) in anhydrous THF (5 mL) was added dropwise and allowed to stir for 1 h at 0 °C. The solution was quenched with a satd aq NH₄Cl solution and extracted with ether. The organic layers were combined, dried and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in chloroform (20 mL) and MnO₂ (27.9 mmol, 2.43 g) was added to the solution. The suspension was refluxed for 1 h, the solution was cooled and filtered through a pad of celite, and the filtrate was concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the product. When the product was a solid, it was recrystallized from hexanes/EtOAc or hexanes/CH₂Cl₂ to afford spectroscopically pure product.

1-(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 2.37 g (96%) of the product as an orange oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 3.83 (s, 6H), 6.57-6.59 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.38-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.55 (td, J = 6.8, 1.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 56.1, 90.1, 90.5, 104.3, 119.0, 120.6, 128.6, 130.5, 132.2, 133.0, 158.1, 178.5; HRMS Calcd for C₁₇H₁₄O₃: 266.0943. Found 266.0947.

3-Phenyl-1-(pyridin-3-yl)prop-2-yn-1-one. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 1.19 g (62%) of the product as a brown solid: mp 73-75 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 7.42-7.54 (m, 4H), 7.69-7.71 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.4

Hz, 2H), 8.42-8.45 (m, 1H), 8.84-8.86 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 9.45 (t, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 86.4, 94.8, 119.6, 123.7, 128.9, 131.4, 132.3, 133.4, 136.3, 151.5, 154.3, 176.5; HRMS Calcd for C₁₄H₉NO: 207.0684. Found: 207.0689.

1-[4(Dimethylamino)phenyl]-3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 2.13 g (92%) of the product as a bright yellow solid: mp 155-156 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 3.09 (s, 6H), 6.67-6.69 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.65-7.67 (m, 2H), 8.10-8.12 (dd, J = 7.2, 2.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 40.3, 87.6, 91.3, 110.8, 121.0, 125.7, 128.7. 130.3, 132.2, 133.0, 154.3, 176.2; HRMS Calcd for C₁₇H₁₅NO: 249.1154. Found: 249.1160.

1-(Benzo[*d***][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one.** The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (1:1 hexanes:CHCl₃) to afford 1.72 g (74%) of the product as a yellow oil with spectral properties identical to those previously reported.¹⁵

General procedure for preparation of the *O*-methyl oximes. The alkynone (3.5 mmol), methoxylamine hydrochloride (7.0 mmol, 579 mg), Na₂SO₄ (7.0 mmol, 994 mg) and pyridine (1 mL) in methanol (10 mL) were stirred at room temperature. The addition of the co-solvent benzene was used in cases where the ynone showed poor solubility in methanol. In some cases the reaction required refluxing conditions to go to completion. The reaction was monitored by TLC until the reaction was complete. The mixture was diluted with water (25 mL) and extracted with EtOAc $(3 \times 5 \text{ mL})$. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried and evaporated. The residue was then purified by column chromatography on silica gel, unless otherwise stated, to afford the desired *O*-methyl oxime.

(*Z*)-1-Phenylhept-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (5). Purification by flash chromatography (40:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 617 mg (82%) of the product as a pale yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 0.93-0.98 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.46-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.68 (m, 2H), 2.52-2.57 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 7.35-7.37 (m, 3H),

7.82-7.85 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 13.8, 19.7, 22.3, 30.6, 71.7, 104.2, 126.7, 128.5, 129.7, 134.1, 140.5; HRMS Calcd for C₁₄H₁₇NO: 215.1310. Found: 215.1314.

(Z)-Ethyl 4-(3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-ynyl)benzoate *O*-methyl oxime (9). Purification by flash chromatography (40:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 904 mg (82%) of the product as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 1.15 (s, 21H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 7.34-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.84-7.88 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 11.4, 18.9, 63.2, 96.1, 105.6, 126.6, 128.6, 129.7, 133.8, 140.1; HRMS Calcd for C₁₉H₁₇NO₃: 307.1208. Found: 307.1212.

(*Z*)-3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (11). Purification by flash chromatography (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 677 mg (73%) of the product as a pale yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 3.83 (s, 3H), 4.13 (s, 3H), 6.88-6.91 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.38-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.54-7.57 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H) 7.90-7.93 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 55.6, 63.3, 78.8, 101.9, 114.0, 114.3, 126.7, 128.6, 129.8, 134.0, 134.1, 140.4, 160.9; HRMS Calcd for C₁₇H₁₅NO₂: 265.1103. Found: 265.1107.

(*Z*)-1-Phenyl-3-(thiophen-2-yl)prop-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (13). Purification by flash chromatography (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 523 mg (62%) of the product as a pale yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 4.13 (s, 3H), 7.02-7.05 (m, 1H), 7.38-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.86-7.90 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 63.4, 83.7, 94.7, 121.7, 126.7, 127.6, 128.7, 129.6, 130.0, 133.6, 134.3, 140.0; HRMS Calcd for C₁₄H₁₁NOS: 241.0561. Found: 241.0566.

(*Z*)-1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (15). Purification by flash chromatography (6:1 hexanes/CHCl₃) afforded 621 mg (69%) of the product as a colorless solid: mp 52-54 °C: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 4.13 (s, 3H), 7.34-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.59-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.83-7.86 (dt, *J* = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 63.4, 79.2, 101.7, 121.7, 127.9, 128.7, 128.8, 129.9, 132.2, 132.3, 135.8, 139; HRMS Calcd for C₁₆H₁₂ClNO: 269.0607. Found: 269.0611.

(Z)-3-Phenyl-1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]prop-2-yn-1-one O-methyl oxime

(17). Purification by flash chromatography (3:1 hexanes/ CHCl₃) afforded 530 mg (50%) of the product as a tan solid: mp 41-43 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 4.17 (s, 3H), 7.36-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.61-7.66 (m, 4H), 8.02-8.04 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 0.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 63.69, 79.10, 102.20, 121.65, 125.53, 125.57, 125.61, 125.65, 125.95, 126.95, 126.96, 126.99, 128.75, 128.76, 128.77, 130.03, 132.39, 132.41, 132.42, 132.43, 137.15, 138.92 (extra peaks due to C-F coupling); HRMS Calcd for C₁₇H₁₂F₃NO: 303.0871. Found: 303.0875.

(**Z**)-**1**-[**4**(**Dimethylamino**)**phenyl**]-**3**-**phenylprop-2**-**yn-1**-**one** *O*-**methyl oxime** (**19**). Purification by flash chromatography (CHCl₃) afforded 710 mg (73%) of the product as a yellow solid: mp 81-83 °C: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 2.99 (s, 6H), 4.10 (s, 3H), 6.69-6.71 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.60-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.76-7.80 (m, 2H) ; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 40.6, 63.0, 80.2, 100.5, 111.9, 122.3, 127.8, 128.6, 129.5, 132.4, 140.3, 151.6; HRMS Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈N₂O: 278.1419. Found: 278.1424.

(Z)-4-Phenylbut-3-yn-2-one *O*-methyl oxime (23). Purification by flash chromatography on basic alumina (hexanes) afforded 291 mg (48%) of the product as a colorless liquid: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 2.13 (s, 3H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 7.34-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.51-7.54 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 20.8, 62.5, 81.2, 99.3, 121.9, 128.6, 129.6, 132.3, 137.8; HRMS Calcd for C₁₁H₁₁NO: 173.0841. Found: 173.0845.

(Z)-3-Phenyl-1-*o*-tolylprop-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (29). Purification by flash chromatography (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 488 mg (56%) of the product as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 2.54 (s, 3H), 4.12 (s, 3H), 7.22-7.35 (m, 6H), 7.52-7.55 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 21.1, 63.3, 80.9, 101.5, 122.0, 126.2, 128.7, 129.4, 129.7, 129.8, 131.3, 132.3, 133.6, 137.1, 141.1; HRMS Calcd for C₁₇H₁₅NO: 249.1154. Found: 249.1158.

(*Z*)-1-(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (31). Purification by flash chromatography (CHCl₃) afforded 630 mg (61%) of the product as a yellow solid: mp 144-146 °C: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 3.83 (s, 6H), 4.11 (s, 3H), 6.58-6.60 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27-7.33 (m, 4H), 7.49-7.51 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 56.4, 63.1, 81.4, 98.6, 104.4, 112.2, 122.4, 128.5, 129.3, 131.0, 132.4, 135.0, 159.0; HRMS Calcd for C₁₈H₁₇NO₃: 295.1208. Found: 295.1212.

(*Z*)-1-(Benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (33). Purification by flash chromatography (1:1 hexanes/CHCl₃) afforded 322 mg (53%) of the product as a pale yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 4.11 (s, 3H), 5.99 (s, 2H), 6.82-6.84 (d, *J* = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.45 (m, 5H), 7.59-7.61 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 63.1, 79.6, 101.1, 101.7, 106.4, 108.3, 121.8, 121.9, 128.1, 128.8, 132.4, 139.6, 148.1, 149.3; HRMS Calcd for C₁₇H₁₃INO₃: 279.0895. Found: 279.0900.

(*Z*)-1-(Furan-2-yl)-3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (35). Purification by flash chromatography (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 575 mg (73%) of the product as a pale yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 4.14 (s, 3H), 6.47-6.48 (m, 1H), 6.82-6.83 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.6 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 63.6, 78.2, 99.6, 111.8, 112.7, 121.6, 128.7, 130.0, 132.2, 132.4, 144.4, 148.3; HRMS Calcd for C₁₄H₁₁NO₂: 225.0789. Found: 225.0793.

(*Z*)-3-Phenyl-1-(pyridin-3-yl)prop-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (39) Purification by flash chromatography (2:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 471 mg (57%) of the product as an orange oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 4.16 (s, 3H), 7.29-7.40 (m, 4H), 7.60-7.63 (m, 2H) 8.16-8.20 (m, 1H), 8.62-8.64 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 9.14-9.15 (dd, *J* = 2.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 63.6, 78.7, 102.3, 121.6, 123.4, 128.7, 129.7, 130.1, 132.4, 133.6, 137.7, 148.3, 150.7; HRMS Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂N₂O: 236.0950. Found: 236.0953.

(Z)-2,2,6,6-Tetramethylhept-4-yn-3-one *O*-methyl oxime (41). Purification by flash chromatography (40:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 566 mg (83%) of the product as a

pale yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 1.17 (s, 9H), 1.31 (s, 9H), 3.90 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 28.35, 28.36, 30.9, 37.1, 62.3, 69.9, 110.9, 149.7; HRMS Calcd for C₁₂H₂₁NO: 195.1623. Found: 195.1626.

(*Z*)-1-(3,4,5-Trimethoxyphenyl)but-2-yn-1-one *O*-methyl oxime (43). Purification by flash chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) afforded 838 mg (91%) of the product as a pale yellow solid: mp 99-100 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 2.21 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 6H), 4.09 (s, 3H), 7.09 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 5.1, 56.3, 61.0, 63.1, 70.8, 99.5, 103.9, 129.4, 139.6, 140.0, 153.1; HRMS Calcd for C₁₄H₁₇NO₄: 263.1158. Found: 263.1162.

General procedure for iodocyclization using ICl. To a stirred solution of the appropriate *O*-methyl oxime (0.25 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2.5 mL) was added ICl (1M in CH_2Cl_2 , 1.2 equiv) dropwise and the solution was allowed to stir at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC to establish completion. The excess ICl was removed by washing with a satd aq soln of $Na_2S_2O_3$. The aqueous solution was then extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 x 5 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous $MgSO_4$ and concentrated under a vacuum to yield the crude product, which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using hexanes/EtOAc or hexanes/CHCl₃ as the eluent.

5-Butyl-4-iodo-3-phenylisoxazole (6). The product was obtained as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.37-1.49 (m, 2H), 1.72-1.80 (m, 2H), 2.88 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.47-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.76-7.78 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 13.9, 22.4, 27.1, 29.5, 57.5, 128.7 (2 carbons), 129.0, 130.1, 162.9, 175.0; HRMS Calcd for C₁₃H₁₄INO: 327.0120. Found: 327.0126.

Ethyl 4-(4-iodo-3-phenylisoxazol-5-yl)benzoate (10). The product was obtained as a colorless solid: mp 151-153 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 4.39-4.46 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.54 (m, 3H) 7.76-7.80 (m, 2H), 8.16-8.22 (m,

4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 14.6, 57.8, 61.6, 127.8, 128.7, 128.8, 129.2, 130.1, 130.4, 131.2, 132.4, 165.2, 166.0, 168.0; HRMS Calcd for C₁₈H₁₄INO₃: 419.0019. Found: 419.0026.

4-Iodo-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (12). The product was obtained as a colorless solid: mp 153-155 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 3.88 (s, 3H), 7.02-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.52 (m, 3H), 7.76-7.80 (m, 2H), 8.03-8.06 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 0.8 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 54.9, 55.7, 114.4, 120.0, 128.7, 129.1, 129.2, 129.6, 130.2, 161.6, 164.9, 169.1; HRMS Calcd for C₁₆H₁₂INO₂: 376.9913. Found: 376.9918.

4-Iodo-3-phenyl-5-(thiophen-2-yl)isoxazole (14). The product was obtained as a yellow solid: mp 118-120 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 7.20-7.23 (dt, *J* = 3.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.56-7.81 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.76-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.98-8.00 (dd, *J* = 3.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 54.9, 55.7, 114.4, 120.0, 128.7, 129.1, 129.2, 129.6, 130.2, 161.6, 164.9, 169.1; HRMS Calcd for C₁₃H₈INOS: 352.9371. Found: 352.9376.

3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-iodo-5-phenylisoxazole (16). The product was obtained as a colorless solid: mp 165-167 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 7.48-7.53 (m, 5H), 7.72-7.76 (td, *J* = 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 8.04-8.07 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 56.0, 127.3, 127.4, 128.0, 129.0, 129.1, 130.5, 131.1, 136.6, 164.0; HRMS Calcd for C₁₅H₉ClINO: 380.9417. Found: 380.9425.

4-Iodo-5-phenyl-3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]isoxazole (18). The product was obtained as a pale yellow solid: mp 174-175 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 7.52-7.55 (m, 3H), 7.77-7.79 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.92-7.94 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.06-8.08 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 55.72, 125.74, 125.78, 125.81, 125.85, 127.18, 128.01, 128.02, 128.03, 129.05, 129.06, 129.65, 129.67, 131.19, 163.87, 169.73 (extra peaks due to C-F coupling); HRMS Calcd for C₁₆H₉F₃INO: 416.9681. Found: 414.9686.

4-Iodo-3-[4(dimethylamino)phenyl]-5-phenylisoxazole (20). The product was obtained as a pale yellow solid: mp 148-149 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 3.04 (s, 6H), 6.80-6.82 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.49-7.53 (m, 3H), 7.72-7.74 (td, *J* = 7.0, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 8.05-8.07 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 40.5, 56.6, 111.9, 127.7, 128.0, 128.8, 128.9, 130.0, 130.7, 151.5, 164.6, 168.7; HRMS for C₁₇H₁₅IN₂O: 390.0229. Found: 390.0234.

4-Iodo-3-methyl-5-phenylisoxazole (**24**)**.** The product was isolated as a pale yellow oily solid: mp 31-34 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 2.35 (s, 3H), 7.48-7.50 (m, 3H), 8.01-8.05 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 12.8, 58.0, 127.4, 127.5, 128.9, 130.7, 163.2, 167.5; HRMS for C₁₀H₈INO: 284.9651. Found: 284.9654.

4-Iodo-5-phenyl-3*o***-tolylisoxazole (30).** The product was obtained as a pale yellow solid: mp 84-86 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 2.31 (s, 3H), 7.28-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.38-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.54 (m, 3H), 8.12-8.13 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 20.3, 58.8, 126.0, 127.4, 127.7, 128.7, 129.0, 130.2, 130.4, 130.7, 131.0, 137.7, 166.9, 168.2; HRMS Calcd for C₁₆H₁₂INO: 360.9964. Found: 360.9968.

3-(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4-iodo-5-phenylisoxazole (32). The product was obtained as a yellow solid: mp 141-143 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 3.78 (s, 6H), 6.65-6.67 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.52 (m, 2H), 8.12-8.15 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 56.3, 60.7, 104.7, 106.7, 127.6, 127.8, 128.9, 130.6, 132.1, 159.1, 162.6, 167.5; HRMS Calcd for C₁₇H₁₄INO₃: 407.0019. Found: 407.0026.

3-(Benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-4-iodo-5-phenylisoxazole (34). The product was obtained as a colorless solid: mp 126-128 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 6.05 (s, 2H), 6.93-6.95 (dd *J* = 8.0, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.33 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.54 (m, 3H), 8.04-8.06 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 56.4, 101.8, 108.7, 109.5, 122.5, 123.6, 127.5, 128.0, 129.0, 130.9, 148.0, 149.4, 164.5, 169.2; HRMS Calcd for C₁₆H₁₀INO₃: 390.9705. Found: 390.9712.

3-(Furan-2-yl)-4-iodo-5-phenylisoxazole (**36**). The product was obtained as an orange solid: mp 50-53 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 6.37-6.38 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.35 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.54 (m, 4H), 8.02-8.05 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 52.3, 108.4, 114.9, 126.9, 128.1, 129.0, 131.2, 139.5, 142.9, 155.7, 169.6; HRMS Calcd for C₁₃H₈INO₂: 336.9600. Found: 3363.9606.

3-(4-Iodo-5-phenylisoxazol-3-yl)pyridine (40). The product was obtained as a pale yellow solid: mp 144-146 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 300 MHz) δ 7.44-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.56 (m, 3H), 8.06-8.15 (m, 3H), 8.76-8.77 (dd, J = 4.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 9.07 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 55.8, 123.5, 125.3, 127.1, 128.0, 129.1, 131.2, 136.6, 149.8, 151.3, 162.7, 169.7; HRMS Calcd for C₁₄H₉IN₂O: 347.9760. Found: 347.9765.

3,5-Di*tert***-butyl-4-iodoisoxazole (42).** The product was obtained as a colorless solid: mp 106-108 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 1.47 (s, 9H), 1.49 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 28.4, 28.5, 33.8, 34.6, 50.6, 169.4, 177.6; HRMS Calcd for C₁₁H₁₈INO: 307.0433. Found: 307.0437.

4-Iodo-5-methyl-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)isoxazole (44). The product was obtained as a colorless solid: mp 148-150 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 2.56 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 6H), 7.06 (s, 2H) ; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 13.2, 56.4, 57.9, 61.1, 105.8, 124.0, 139.6, 153.4, 162.4, 171.7; HRMS Calcd for C₁₃H₁₄INO₄: 374.9968. Found: 374.9971.

Procedure for the Suzuki-Miyaura cross-coupling to form 4-(5-methyl-3-phenyl-4-isoxazolyl)benzenesulfonamide (valdecoxib) (46). To a 4-dram vial was added 4-iodo-5-methyl-3-phenylisoxazole (0.25 mmol, 71 mg), benzenesulfonamide-4-boronic acid pinacol ester (0.35 mmol, 99 mg), KHCO₃ (0.35 mmol, 35 mg) and PdCl₂ (0.0125 mmol, 2.2 mg) in 4:1 DMF:H₂O (2.5 mL). The solution was stirred for 5 min at room temperature and flushed with argon and then heated to 80 °C for 2 h. The product was concentrated under reduced pressure and isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (2:3 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford 4-(5-methyl-3-phenyl-4-

isoxazolyl)benzenesulfonamide (valdecoxib) (**46**) as a colorless solid: mp 160-162 °C (lit.¹⁶ 155-157 °C, lit.¹⁷ 172-173 °C) with spectral properties identical to those previously reported.^{16,17}

Procedure for the palladium-catalyzed carbonylative esterification to form methyl 3,5-diphenylisoxazole-4-carboxylate (47). To a 4-dram vial was added 4-iodo-3,5-diphenylisoxazole (0.44 mmol, 152 mg), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.0132 mmol, 2.8 mg), DPPF (0.028 mmol, 14.8 mg) in 4:1 DMF:H₂O (1.25 mL). The reaction mixture was evacuated and back-filled with carbon monoxide three times. A balloon of carbon monoxide was attached to the vial, which was heated to 55 °C for 18 h. The solution was allowed to cool and was diluted with ethyl acetate (20 mL). The organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography using 10:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford the compound as a colorless solid: mp 94-96 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 3.72 (s, 3H), 7.48-7.54 (m, 6H), 7.65-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.67-7.93 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 52.2, 108.2, 127.0, 128.5 (2 peaks), 128.7, 128.8, 128.9, 129.1, 130.1, 131.5, 163.1, 163.2, 172.7; HRMS Calcd for C₁₇H₁₃NO₃: 279.0895. Found: 279.0899.

Procedure for the palladium-catalyzed carbonylative amidation to form *N*-**phenethyl-5-methyl-3-phenylisoxazole-4-carboxamide (48).** A modified literature procedure was used.¹⁸ To a 4-dram vial was added 4-iodo-5-methyl-3-phenylisoxazole (0.17 mmol, 48 mg), PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.0085 mmol, 6 mg), 2-phenethyl amine (0.25 mL) in DMF (1 mL). The reaction mixture was evacuated and back-filled with carbon monoxide three times. A balloon of carbon monoxide was placed on the vial, which was heated to 80 °C for 18 h. The solution was allowed to cool and was diluted with ethyl acetate (20 mL). The organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography using 4:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford the compound as a colorless solid: mp 145-146 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 1.51 (s, 3H), 2.71 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.51-3.56 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 5.41 (br s, 1H), 6.96-6.98 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.39-7.50 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ

13.2, 35.2, 40.7, 111.2, 126.8, 128.3, 128.7, 128.9, 129.1, 129.3, 130.6, 138.5, 160.3, 161.7, 174.3; HRMS Calcd for C₁₉H₁₈N₂O₂: 306.1368. Found: 306.1374.

Procedure for the Sonogashira coupling to form 5-methyl-3-phenyl-4-(phenylethynyl)isoxazole (49). To a 4-dram vial was added 4-iodo-5-methyl-3phenylisoxazole (0.5 mmol, 142 mg), phenyl acetylene (0.6 mmol, 61.2 mg), PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.005 mmol, 3.5 mg), CuI (0.01 mmol, 1.9 mg), DMF (1.5 mL) and Et₂NH (1.85 mL). The solution was stirred for 5 minutes at room temperature and flushed with argon and then heated to 50 °C for 6 h. The solution was allowed to cool and was diluted with ethyl acetate (20 mL). The organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography using 10:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford the compound as a brown solid: mp 98-100 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 2.58 (s, 3H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 3H), 7.46-7.51 (m, 5 H), 8.09-8.12 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 4.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 12.3, 78.4, 95.1, 99.5, 122.9, 127.7, 128.6, 128.7, 128.8, 130.3, 131.6, 161.3, 173.1; HRMS Calcd for C₁₈H₁₃NO: 259.0997. Found: 259.1001.

Procedure for the Heck coupling to form (*E*)-3-(5-methyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4yl)-1-morpholinoprop-2-en-1-one (50). To a 4-dram vial was added 4-iodo-5-methyl-3phenylisoxazole (0.25 mmol, 71 mg), *N*-acryloylmorpholine (1.0 mmol, 141 mg), PdOAc₂ (0.0132 mmol, 2.8 mg), TBAC (0.25 mmol, 69 mg), Na₂CO₃ (0.625 mmol, 66 mg) and DMF (1 mL), which was then heated to 85 °C for 24 h. The solution was allowed to cool and was diluted with ethyl acetate (20 mL). The organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography using 1:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford the compound as a yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 2.59 (s, 3H), 3.27 (br s, 2H), 3.60 (br s, 2H), 3.68 (br s, 4H), 6.28-6.33 (d, *J* = 15.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.51 (m, 4H), 7.53-7.58 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 12.3, 42.5, 46.0, 66.8, 111.7, 118.5, 128.9, 129.0, 129.2, 130.0, 130.8, 161.8, 165.1, 169.3; HRMS Calcd for C₁₇H₁₈N₂O₃: 298.1317. Found: 298.1321.

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